

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants' representative would like to thank Examiner Berch for the courteous and helpful discussion of the issues in the present application on December 22, 2003. Applicants would like to thank Examiner Berch for the indication that the claims contain allowable subject matter. The above amendments and following remarks summarize and further expand on the content of that discussion.

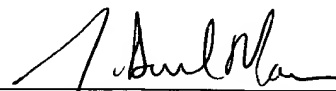
The claims have been amended to correct minor spelling and punctuation errors. The claims have further been amended to delete the inclusion of pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates, without prejudice to their pursuit in a further Divisional or Continuation application. Further, the method claims have been cancelled, without prejudice to their pursuit in a subsequent Divisional application.

Various combinations of the claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first or second paragraphs. The above amendments obviate the outstanding rejections. With respect to the rejection of certain claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph for lack of enablement, Applicants note that the compounds have been shown to have activity in inhibition of MAPK, as shown on page 192 (and as acknowledged by the Examiner in the Interview Summary dated December 22, 2003). Accordingly, the rejections should be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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